



Town of Amherst
Town Council Meeting
Monday, February 10, 2020 6:30 p.m.
Town Room, Town Hall
4 Boltwood Avenue

Minutes

Complete video is available online: <https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-february-10-2020>

1. Call to Order

President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Councilors present: Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg.

Councilors absent: Councilor Swartz

Councilors participating remotely: None

Others present: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Interim Finance Director Sonia Aldrich, Town Clerk Shavena Martin, and Clerk of the Council Athena O’Keeffe.

2. Announcements

President Griesemer explained the need for the suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for items on the agenda, and noted the chair of Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee will add review of the rule to the committee’s next agenda.

3. Hearings

a. Public Hearing to consider a Verizon petition for conduit location on Spring Street
MGL 166 sec 22 required a public hearing to...this hearing is to consider a Verizon petition to install...

Paul Davis, representing Verizon, spoke about the petition for the conduit and answered questions from Councilors about the use and future of the conduit.

Public Questions – none

Public in favor – none

Public opposed – none

No further Council comments or questions.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to close the public hearing.

VOTE 12-0-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to close the public hearing.

b. Public Hearing to consider a 35 South Pleasant Street, LLC request to make a permanent change to the public way at 35 South Pleasant Street

Executive Director of the Amherst Business Improvement District, Gabrielle Gould, and building owner Barry Roberts, spoke about the current conditions and issues and the purpose of the request, which is to make the Visitor Center accessible.

Public questions – none

Public in favor - none

Public opposed – none

No further Council questions or comments.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Pam, to close the hearing.

VOTE 12-0-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to close the public hearing.

MOVED: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Steinberg, to suspend Town Council Rule 8.4 for the following agenda items and associated motions:

- 7a: Verizon Petition for Conduit on Spring Street
- 7b: 35 South Pleasant Street, LLC Request for Permanent Change to the Public Way
- 7g: Presidential Primary Election Warrant – March 3, 2020
- 7h(1-6): Town Council Financial Orders FY20-64, 65, 66, 67, 68 and 78
- 7k (1-2): Joint Capital Planning Committee and Budget Coordinating Group Charges

VOTED: 11-0-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor DuMont Abstained; Councilor Swartz was absent) to suspend Town Council Rule 8.4 for the following agenda items and associated motions:

- 7a: Verizon Petition for Conduit on Spring Street
- 7b: 35 South Pleasant Street, LLC Request for Permanent Change to the Public Way
- 7g: Presidential Primary Election Warrant – March 3, 2020
- 7h(1-6): Town Council Financial Orders FY20-64, 65, 66, 67, 68 and 78
- 7k (1-2): Joint Capital Planning Committee and Budget Coordinating Group Charges

Agenda item 7.a. Verizon Petition for Conduit Location on Spring Street

MOVED: Councilor Pam moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to grant permission to VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. to lay and maintain underground conduits and manholes, with the wires and cables placed therein, under the surface of Spring Street as recommended by the DPW and requested in the petition of said Company dated the 3rd day of February, 2020 job#4A0J4KW.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to grant permission to

VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. to lay and maintain underground conduits and manholes, with the wires and cables placed therein, under the surface of Spring Street as recommended by the DPW and requested in the petition of said Company dated the 3rd day of February, 2020 job#4A0J4KW.

Moved: Councilor De Angelis moved, second by Councilor Ryan, that the Town Manager is authorized to grant, on such terms and conditions as the Town Manager deems appropriate, a permanent easement, for the benefit of property located at 31-35 South Pleasant Street, for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, repairing and replacing a handicap access ramp and steps on a portion of the public sidewalk abutting said property, which easement area is to be shown on a plan acceptable to the Town Manager.

Voted: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) that the Town Manager is authorized to grant, on such terms and conditions as the Town Manager deems appropriate, a permanent easement, for the benefit of property located at 31-35 South Pleasant Street, for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, repairing and replacing a handicap access ramp and steps on a portion of the public sidewalk abutting said property, which easement area is to be shown on a plan acceptable to the Town Manager.

Agenda item 7.g. 2020 Presidential Primary Election Warrant

Motion: Councilor Ryan moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to authorize the warrant for the Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Precinct 1: North Zion Church Hall, 1193 North Pleasant Street
Precinct 2: North Fire Station, 603 East Pleasant Street
Precinct 3: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 867 North Pleasant Street
Precinct 4: Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk
Precinct 5: Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk
Precinct 6: Fort River School, 70 South East Street
Precinct 7: Crocker Farm School, 280 West Street
Precinct 8: Munson Memorial Library, 1046 South East Street
Precinct 9: Wildwood School, 71 Strong Street
Precinct 10: Glass Room, Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk

Councilor Brewer commented about ongoing concerns regarding safety at the schools on election days.

Town Clerk Shavena Martin provided information about early voting.

Voted: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to authorize the warrant for the Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Precinct 1: North Zion Church Hall, 1193 North Pleasant Street
Precinct 2: North Fire Station, 603 East Pleasant Street
Precinct 3: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 867 North Pleasant Street
Precinct 4: Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk
Precinct 5: Large Activity Room, Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk
Precinct 6: Fort River School, 70 South East Street
Precinct 7: Crocker Farm School, 280 West Street
Precinct 8: Munson Memorial Library, 1046 South East Street
Precinct 9: Wildwood School, 71 Strong Street

Precinct 10: Glass Room, Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk

7.h. Financial Orders

Interim Finance Director Sonia Aldrich gave a brief explanation of the purpose of the financial orders.

Councilor Steinberg reported that Finance Committee voted to recommend the Council approve the orders.

Agenda item 7.h.(1) FY 20-64

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Schoen, in terms of Council order FY20-64: An Order Appropriating Funds for general road and sidewalk improvements including traffic signals at the North Pleasant/Pine/Meadow Streets Intersection, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

Councilor DuMont asked how the decision was made to prioritize this intersection, and commented about traffic and safety concerns in her district.

Councilor Steinberg noted that the intersection has been a priority item for the last 10 years, and that the proposed improvements are much less costly than previous plans. Councilor Brewer added that the Select Board was told it would cost over \$200,000 to fix the intersection, new technology allows the improvements at a much lower cost, and that it is important to discuss priorities.

Councilors discussed the benefits of the improvements, and the need for a priority list of road and sidewalk improvements.

Councilor Ross asked why the intersection was not part of the capital improvement plan, and expressed preference to return leftover funds to free cash. Town Manager Paul Bockelman responded that the Town was seeking grant funds for the intersection, but the grants did not come through and in the interim, Town engineers came up with the proposed solution.

VOTED: 10-1-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Schreiber voted No; Councilor DuMont abstained; Councilor Swartz was absent) in terms of Council order FY20-64: An Order Appropriating Funds for general road and sidewalk improvements including traffic signals at the North Pleasant/Pine/Meadow Streets Intersection, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

Agenda item 7.h.(2) FY20-65

MOTION: Councilor De Angelis moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, in terms of Council order FY20-65: An Order Authorizing Bond Premiums from Past Borrowings to be applied to Reduce Existing Debt, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) in terms of Council order FY20-65: An Order Authorizing Bond Premiums from Past Borrowings to be applied to Reduce Existing Debt, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

Agenda item 7.h.(3) FY20-66

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, in terms of Council order FY20-66: An Order Appropriating and Transferring Funds from Free Cash to Stabilization Fund, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) in terms of Council order FY20-66: An Order Appropriating and Transferring Funds from Free Cash to Stabilization Fund, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

Agenda item 7.h.(4) FY20-67

MOTION: Councilor Schoen moved, second by Councilor Pam, in terms of Council order FY20-67: An Order Appropriating and Transferring funds from Free Cash to OPEB Trust Fund, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) in terms of Council order FY20-67: An Order Appropriating and Transferring funds from Free Cash to OPEB Trust Fund, as recommended by the 2/10/20 Finance Committee report.

Agenda item 7.h.(5)a. FY20-68

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, in terms of Council order FY20-68. The motion was withdrawn.

MOTION: Councilor Ryan moved, second by Councilor Pam, in terms of Council Order FY20-68: An Order Appropriating and Approving Borrowing for a Portion of the Town of Amherst FY2020 Capital Program – Elementary School Feasibility Study, as recommended by the Finance Committee on 2/10/2020.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) in terms of Council Order FY20-68: An Order Appropriating and Approving Borrowing for a Portion of the Town of Amherst FY2020 Capital Program – Elementary School Feasibility Study, as recommended by the Finance Committee on 2/10/2020.

Agenda item 7.h.(5)b. FY20-78

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ryan, in terms of Council Order FY20-78: An Order Appropriating and Approving Borrowing for a Portion of the Town of Amherst FY2020 Capital Program– the Installation of an Institutional Network Loop, as recommended by the Finance Committee on 2/10/2020.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) in terms of Council Order FY20-78: An Order Appropriating and Approving Borrowing for a Portion of the Town of Amherst FY2020 Capital Program– the Installation of an Institutional Network Loop, as recommended by the Finance Committee on 2/10/2020.

Councilors discussed the form of the Council orders, and the inclusion of the “whereas” statements in the orders.

4. General Public Comment

Amherst resident Jim Barnhill commented that he walks on Lincoln Ave every day and limiting parking on Lincoln Avenue is unwise.

Amherst resident Rebecca Hull of Stony Hill Road spoke about concerns regarding wireless networks, commented about a film titled Generation Zapped, and offered to show it for Town staff and Councilors.

Amherst business owner Nick Seamon spoke about the redesign of the north common, and expressed concerns about eliminating parking.

Julian, a young Amherst resident, spoke about parking issues on Lincoln Avenue, and commented that there are parking issues on other streets in Town.

An Amherst business owner spoke in opposition to removing parking on the north common, and the hours of enforcement.

Amherst resident and Executive Director of the Amherst Business Improvement District (BID) Gabrielle Gould commented that the BID is very encouraged by the north common beautification project, and suggested restriping spaces and other solutions to create more parking in Town.

5. Proclamations and Commemorations

a. League of Women Voters Proclamation

Adrienne Terrizzi of the League of Women Voters thanked the Council for acknowledging the national league anniversary, and spoke about the league's work in the community.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to adopt the Proclamation Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the United States, as presented.

Councilor Ryan reported that the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee voted the proclamation clear, consistent, and actionable.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to adopt the Proclamation Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the United States, as presented.

6. Presentations and Discussion

a. Flood Mapping Presentation

Planning Director Christine Brestrup spoke about the flood-mapping project. After additional presentations, the Council will be asked to vote on the flood mapping. Maps were last updated in 1983. Town meeting appropriated funds to update Amherst flood maps. Preliminary flood insurance rate maps were presented in September 2017. One land owner has asked to reduce the flood plain area on their property. The owner can appeal, the appeal would go to FEMA. All property owners were notified when the appeal period began in November. Councilor Ross asked if it is typical to wait so long between flood map updates. C. Brestrup responded that the coastal cities and towns are updated more frequently, and focus on towns that abut rivers. The Town chose to take on this project because there was a discrepancy. Notices were sent to about 400 property owners.

Public comment – none

b. Notice of Intent to Convert to Commercial/Industrial Use [M.G.L. Ch. 61A §14] Parcel 2A-7 on Sunderland Road

Assistant Town Manager David Ziomek gave a brief explanation of General Law Ch. 61A §14. The Town has until March 6 to act upon the notice. The property is in professional research park (PRP) zoning, not good quality soils and no species of special concern.

Councilor De Angelis asked if it is beneficial to the tax base if it were used as commercial industrial. D. Ziomek responded that there will be a Planning Board recommendation and additional information at the next meeting. Councilor Pam asked about the wetlands. D. Ziomek responded that the property is over 38 acres, only 9 or 10 acres are buildable. If the council takes no action, the right of first refusal period ends March 6.

c. North Amherst Library

Town Manager Paul Bockelman explained that an anonymous donor approached the Town with a donation to make the library accessible and to add restrooms a community meeting room.

Councilors spoke about the generosity of the donation, and discussed issues with limited space in the library.

Councilors Ross and Brewer raised concerns about the intersection outside the library, and not impeding the improvements to the intersection.

Councilors raised concerns regarding creating a staffing burden at the library, and competing capital needs.

Agenda item 7. c. Proposal on Changes to Public Ways Regulations on Lincoln Avenue – Town Manager Paul Bockelman

Councilor Brewer asked that existing conditions be mapped and included in the Council materials, give people a sense of the net loss of spaces, and asked that the legal notice include the word “parking.”

Councilor Schreiber expressed concern that the right of way is 23 feet, there are other streets of the same width, and asked that alternatives be included in the discussion.

Councilors discussed the process of scheduling hearings relating to parking issues and the need for a consistent process or policy.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Pam, that the Council President schedule a March 9, 2020 legally noticed public hearing in accordance with the Town General Bylaws Section 3.14B on the proposed changes to public ways regulations on Lincoln Avenue as presented.

Councilor DuMont spoke in opposition to the motion, stating that we should have a policy and should fulfill the same criteria.

Councilor Hanneke commented that the request came from Town staff.

Councilor Bahl-Milne in a difficult position with constituents.

Councilors discussed the need for a process.

VOTED: 9-3-0 (Councilors Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Bahl-Milne, DuMont, and Schreiber voted No; Councilor Swartz was absent) that the Council President schedule a March 9, 2020 legally noticed public hearing in accordance with the Town General Bylaws Section 3.14B on the proposed changes to public ways regulations on Lincoln Avenue as presented.

Agenda item 14. Executive Session

President Griesemer declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body, and that the Council will reconvene in open session.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to enter into executive session pursuant to the provisions of MGL Ch. 30A §21(a)6, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.

VOTED BY ROLL CALL: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to enter into executive session pursuant to the provisions of MGL Ch. 30A §21(a)6, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.

The Town Council entered into executive session at 9:38 p.m.

The Town Council reconvened in open session at 10:24 p.m.

Agenda item 7.d. Board of License Commissioners Regulations

Councilor Hanneke spoke about the Board of License Commissioners regulations that have been adopted but are not enforceable until the Town Council approves them.

Councilor Ross spoke in favor of approving the regulations.

Councilor Schoen agreed that approving the regulations makes sense.

MOTION: Councilor Pam moved, second by Councilor Ross, to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current item.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current item.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ryan, pursuant to General Bylaw Section 2.2(B), the Town Council hereby approves the Amherst Board of License Commissioners BYOB (Bring Your Own Bottle) Regulations, adopted by the Board of License Commissioners on July 29, 2019, including all amendments thereto subsequently adopted, for enforcement by noncriminal disposition by the Board of License Commissioners, with penalties as set forth in the Regulations.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) pursuant to General Bylaw Section 2.2(B), the Town Council hereby approves the Amherst Board of License Commissioners BYOB (Bring Your Own Bottle) Regulations, adopted by the Board of License Commissioners on July 29, 2019, including all amendments thereto subsequently adopted, for enforcement by noncriminal disposition by the Board of License Commissioners, with penalties as set forth in the Regulations.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, pursuant to General Bylaw Section 2.2(B), the Town Council hereby approves the Amherst Board of License Commissioners Alcohol Food Service Regulations, adopted by the Board of License Commissioners on September 23, 2019, including all amendments thereto subsequently adopted, for enforcement by noncriminal disposition by the Board of License Commissioners, with penalties as set forth in the Regulations.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) pursuant to General

Bylaw Section 2.2(B), the Town Council hereby approves the Amherst Board of License Commissioners Alcohol Food Service Regulations, adopted by the Board of License Commissioners on September 23, 2019, including all amendments thereto subsequently adopted, for enforcement by noncriminal disposition by the Board of License Commissioners, with penalties as set forth in the Regulations.

e. Bylaw Amendment Section 2.2 – Noncriminal Enforcement of Rules and Regulations

Councilor Hanneke explained the proposed amendment to the Bylaw, which would allow a board to adopt regulations without Council approval.

f. Affordable Housing Priorities Policy

Councilor Hanneke provided an extensive memo, and after feedback from Finance Committee, the Community Resources Committee (CRC) voted 4-1 to recommend the Council refer to CRC the development of a comprehensive housing policy.

Councilor Steinberg summarized the Finance Committee’s discussion regarding the financial implications of the housing policy.

Councilors discussed the development of a housing policy, and if that would be developed and adopted along with a separate housing policy adopted by the Affordable Housing Trust.

MOTION: Councilor Pam moved, second by Councilor Steinberg, to refer the Community Resources Committee report dated 2/4/2020, the Finance Committee report appendices titled “Finance Committee housing policy report” and “Affordable Housing – Town Support,” and the “Proposed Amherst Affordable Housing Priorities Policy” to the Community Resources Committee to develop a comprehensive housing policy, with report to the Council within 90 days.

VOTED: 12-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz was absent) to refer the Community Resources Committee report dated 2/4/2020, the Finance Committee report appendices titled “Finance Committee housing policy report” and “Affordable Housing – Town Support,” and the “Proposed Amherst Affordable Housing Priorities Policy” to the Community Resources Committee to develop a comprehensive housing policy, with report to the Council within 90 days.

i. Recommendation on a process for updating and adopting the Master Plan in accordance with Charter Sec. 9.8 – Second Reading – Rule 8.4

Councilor Hanneke explained the revised process, and reported the vote of the Community Resources Committee (CRC). The revisions are marked in red in the CRC report. A flow chart outlining the process was included in the packet as well.

Councilor Pam commented that the Planning Board process is where most of the changes would be discussed.

Councilor Hanneke noted that the Planning Board was concerned about holding public outreach and public hearings during the summer or during the budget season.

MOTION: Councilor Bahl-Milne moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to adopt the process for updating and adopting the Master Plan, as set forth in the document titled “CRC Proposed Master Plan Process - 2020-02-04”, as recommended by the Community Resources Committee, as presented.

Councilor DuMont commented that the responsibility of managing the Master Plan resides with the Planning Board and that the process feels unnecessary.

Councilor Hanneke explained that the Town Council must adopt the Master Plan and the Planning Board must approve the master plan, per the Charter. If the Planning Board approves the master plan and the Council adopts with amendments, it creates issues according to State Law.

Councilor DuMont asked if the Planning Board agreed to the process. Hanneke responded that the Planning Board agreed to make necessary and obvious revisions, and they are adopting their own internal process for updating sections.

Councilor Schreiber left the meeting at 11:24 p.m.

VOTED: 8-1-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Brewer voted No; Councilors DuMont and Schoen Abstained; Councilor Swartz was absent) to adopt the process for updating and adopting the Master Plan, as set forth in the document titled “CRC Proposed Master Plan Process - 2020-02-04”, as recommended by the Community Resources Committee, as presented.

Agenda item 7.k. Reorganization of Standing Committees, Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee – Action on Joint Capital Planning Committee and Budget Coordinating Group Charges

Councilor Ryan explained the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee’s recommendation to adopt the Joint Capital Planning Committee and Budget Coordinating Group charges.

(1) Joint Capital Planning Committee

Councilors discussed changes to the charge.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to amend the Joint Capital Planning Committee charge, as set forth in the document titled “JCPC Charge -GOL Voted 2020-01-29,” as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee report, as presented.

VOTED: 11-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to amend the Joint Capital Planning Committee charge, as set forth in the document titled “JCPC Charge -GOL Voted 2020-01-29,” as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee report, as presented.

(2) Budget Coordinating Group

Councilor Ryan explained the changes to the charge.

Councilors discussed the purpose of the group.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to amend the Budget Coordinating Group charge, as set forth in the document titled “BCG Charge -GOL Voted 2020-01-29,” as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee report, as presented.

VOTED: 11-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to amend the

Budget Coordinating Group charge, as set forth in the document titled “BCG Charge -GOL Voted 2020-01-29,” as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee report, as presented.

Agenda item 7.j. Proposed Committee Liaisons, Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee - First Discussion – Rule 8.4

Councilor Ross explained that the Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee (OCA) voted to recommend which Town committees should have liaisons, and spoke about how OCA selected committees: Affordable Housing Trust, Board of Health, Board of License Commissioners, Community Preservation Act Committee, Council on Aging, Disability Access Advisory Committee, LSSE Commission, Transportation Advisory Committee, Zoning Subcommittee of the Planning Board.

President Griesemer suggested that the Council suspend rule 8.4, vote on the OCA recommendations, and she would poll the Council for their interest in serving as liaison to the named committees.

Councilor Hanneke spoke about conversations with the Planning Board chair and that it makes sense that the CRC chair or vice chair serve as liaison to the Planning Board or a subcommittee.

Councilor Ross spoke about the expectations of liaisons.

8. Appointments

a. Town Manager Appointments

(1) Council on Aging

MOTION: Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Council on Aging, effective immediately, as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
 - Jacqueline Smith-Crooks
- For a one-year term to expire June 30, 2020:
 - Greg Bascomb
 - Timothy Neale

VOTED: 11-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Council on Aging, effective immediately, as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
 - Jacqueline Smith-Crooks
- For a one-year term to expire June 30, 2020:
 - Greg Bascomb
 - Timothy Neale

(2) Participatory Budgeting Commission

MOTION: Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the following Town Manager appointment to the Budget Coordinating Group, effective immediately, as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report:

- For a term to expire on December 1, 2020 or such additional time as necessary, to complete the charge outlined in the Charter:
 - Jonathan McCabe

VOTED: 11-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to approve the

following Town Manager appointment to the Budget Coordinating Group, effective immediately, as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report:

- For a term to expire on December 1, 2020 or such additional time as necessary, to complete the charge outlined in the Charter:
 - Jonathan McCabe

(3) Cultural Council

MOTION: Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Cultural Council, effective immediately, as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
 - Arthur Pero
- For a two-year term to expire June 30, 2021:
 - Nicholas Graber-Mitchell
- For a one-year term to expire June 30, 2020:
 - Rachel Wang

VOTED: 11-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Cultural Council, effective immediately, as recommended by the 2/10/2020 Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
 - Arthur Pero
- For a two-year term to expire June 30, 2021:
 - Nicholas Graber-Mitchell
- For a one-year term to expire June 30, 2020:
 - Rachel Wang

b. Town Council Appointments

(1) Joint Capital Planning Committee (JCPC)

MOTION: Councilor Pam moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to appoint Mandi Jo Hanneke, Cathy Schoen, and Andy Steinberg to the Joint Capital Planning Committee, effective immediately.

VOTED: 11-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to appoint Mandi Jo Hanneke, Cathy Schoen, and Andy Steinberg to the Joint Capital Planning Committee, effective immediately.

c. President Appointments

(1) Finance Committee

President Griesemer announced the following appointments to the Finance Committee:

- Councilor Pat De Angelis
- Councilor Lynn Griesemer
- Councilor Dorothy Pam
- Councilor Cathy Schoen
- Councilor Andrew Steinberg

10. Approval of Minutes

a. January 27, 2020

b. February 1, 2020

MOTION: Councilor Schoen moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 Town Council Meeting and February 1, 2020 Four Towns Meeting, as presented.

VOTED: 10-0-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Brewer Abstained; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 Town Council Meeting and February 1, 2020 Four Towns Meeting, as presented.

11. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Paul Bockelman spoke about upcoming events and a strategic partnership agreement with the University of Massachusetts for Education Funding for the next three years.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Community Resources Committee** – No further report.
- b. Finance Committee** – Councilor Steinberg reported that we have an agreement for a regional assessment for next year. 45% was acceptable to all four towns for one year.
- c. Governance, Organization and Legislation Committee** – Councilor Ryan reported that GOL will have a recommendation for committee restructuring at the next Council meeting, taking into consideration Councilor comments and feedback.
- d. Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee** – No further report.
- e. Percent for Art Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee** – President Griesemer noted the first discussion of the proposed Percent for Art Bylaw will be held at the February 24 Council meeting.

12. Town Council Comments

- a. President report**
- b. Future agenda items**
- c. Councilor comments**

13. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting

Councilor Brewer suggested executive sessions be held earlier in the evening, and asked that the Council consider submitting a Project eligibility letter for 132 Northampton Road.

15. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilor Schoen moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to adjourn the February 10, 2020 meeting of the Town Council.

VOTED 11-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Schreiber and Swartz were absent) to adjourn the February 10, 2020 meeting of the Town Council.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 a.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Athena O'Keeffe

Clerk of the Council

Record of Agenda Packet Materials and Documents Presented

- 0. 02-10-2020 Draft Motions for Town Council
- 0. 02-10-2020 FINAL Town Council Agenda - Regular Meeting
- 00. 02-10-2020 FINAL Town Council Agenda - Council Order FY20-68 Public Forum
- 3.a. 7.a. Bulletin Board Post - Verizon Public Hearing
- 3.a. 7.a. DPW Memo Re Verizon Petition
- 3.a. 7.a. REVISED Verizon Petition for Conduit Location - Spring Street
- 3.a. 7.a. Verizon Petition for Conduit Location - Spring Street
- 3.a. 7.a. Verizon Petition Notice to Abutters
- 3.b. 7.b. Bulletin Board Post - Public Hearing on Change to the Public Way
- 3.b. 7.b. Easement for Amherst BID Ramp - 35 South Pleasant Street
- 3.b. 7.b. Memo Public Way - 31-35 South Pleasant Street Visitor Center Ramp
- 5.a. 7.k.1-2. 2020-02-10 GOL Report to Town Council
- 5.a. Proclamation League of Women Voters of US - MJH Revisions
- 6.a. flood map PPT 2-10-2020
- 6.a. Memo to Tn Mgr re Town Council Role Flood Mapping 02-06-20
- 6.b. Chapter 61A Notice re Szala Property 2A-7
- 6.c. North Amherst Library Proposal 02-06-2020
- 7.c. Public Way - Lincoln Avenue 02-05-2020 Attachment B
- 7.c. Public Way - Lincoln Avenue 02-05-2020 Attachment C
- 7.c. Public Way - Lincoln Avenue 02-05-2020 w Attachment A
- 7.d. 7.e. BLC Regulations Memo to TC-2020-01-31-with attachments
- 7.e. Amherst Housing Policy-July 19, 2019
- 7.f. 7.i. 2020-02-04 CRC Report to Town Council
- 7.f. Appendix to Finance Committee Report - Affordable Housing-Town Support
- 7.f. Appendix to Finance Committee Report - Finance Committee housing policy report
- 7.g. 2020 Presidential Primary Election Warrant
- 7.h. Finance Committee report 2.10.20
- 7.h.1. CO 20-64 - Repurpose Capital funds for roads sidewalks and traffic signal improvements
- 7.h.2. CO 20-65 - Use of Preimums to paydown debt on prior bond authorization
- 7.h.3. CO 20-66 - Transfer Free Cash to Stabilization Fund
- 7.h.4. CO 20-67 - Transfer Free Cash to OPEB Fund
- 7.h.5. Bulletin Board Post - Appropriation not in the annual budget FY20-68
- 7.h.5. CO 20-68 - Borrowing authorization - School Design
- 7.h.5.b. CO 20-78 - Borrowing authorization - I-Net Installation draft 2.8. 20
- 7.i. MP Flow Chart 2020-02-05
- 7.j. 2020-01-06 OCA Report to Town Council
- 7.k.1. JCPC Charge -GOL Voted 2020-01-29
- 7.k.2. BCG Charge - GOL Voted 2020-01-29
- 8.a. 2020-02-10 OCA Report to Town Council
- 8.a.1. Council on Aging Appointments - 01-22-2020 rev. 01-27-2020
- 8.a.2. Participatory Budgeting Commission Appointment - 01-22-2019
- 8.a.3. Cultural Council Appointments - 01-22-2020
- 8.b. Memorandum re JCPC Appointments - 2-7-2020
- 8.c. Memo regarding Town Council Appointments to Finance Committee 2-7-2020
- 10.a. 01-27-2020 DRAFT Town Council Minutes
- 10.b. 02-01-2020 Town Council Minutes - Four Towns Meeting
- 11. Town Manager Report 02-10-2020